

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BELGRA 08163 140850Z
ACTION EUR-12

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R 140715Z DEC 76
FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
TO AMEMBASSY CAIRO
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 8972
AMCONSUL ZAGREB

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BELGRADE 8163

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EGEN, BBAK, YO
SUBJECT: DR. MIODRAG CEPERKOVIC BEING ASSIGNED TO CAIRO AS FEDERAL
CHAMBER REPRESENTATIVE

1. DR MIODRAG CEPERKOVIC, WHO IS PRESIDENT OF THE
YUGOSLAV-U.S. COUNCIL FOR THE PROMOTION OF ECONOMIC RELATIONS,
HAS BEEN ASSIGNED TO CAIRO AS RESIDENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE
YUGOSLAV FEDERAL CHAMBER OF THE ECONOMY. DR. CEPERKOVIC,
HIS WIFE AND TEEN-AGE SON WILL BE LEAVING ON DECEMBER 15TH
TO TAKE UP A FOUR-YEAR ASSIGNMENT IN CAIRO.

2. CEPERKOVIC HAS BEEN VERY OPEN AND FRIENDLY IN HIS
DEALINGS WITH EMBASSY, BELGRADE, AND MIGHT PROVE TO BE A GOOD
CONTACT FOR EMBASSY CAIRO. AS WE UNDERSTAND SITUATION, HE
WILL NOT BE ASSIGNED TO YUGOSLAV EMBASSY, BUT INSTEAD WILL
REPRESENT THE CHAMBER OF ECONOMY, A SEMI-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANI-
ZATION TO WHICH ALL YUGOSLAV ENTERPRISES MUST BELONG.

3. CEPERKOVIC, AN ENGINEER BY TRAINING, HAS BEEN GENERAL
DIRECTOR OF JUGOMETAL, A LARGE COMPANY BY YUGOSLAV STANDARDS
WITH EXTENSIVE INTERESTS IN ALL PHASES OF FERROUS AND NON-
FERROUS METALLURGY. UNDER CEPERKOVIC'S LEADERSHIP, JUGOMETAL
GREW FROM A MEDIUM-SIZED EXPORTER AND IMPORTER OF METALS TO ITS
PRESENT SIZE. IN RECENT YEARS, HOWEVER, THE FIRM HAS BEEN
PLAGUED BY DIFFICULTIES WITH ITS LARGEST SINGLE UNIT, THE
SMEDEREVO STEEL WORKS. AN OVERLY AMBITIOUS EXPANSION PLAN
AND DIFFICULTIES IN SECURING ADEQUATE CAPITAL FOR THE SMEDEREVO
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PLANT COMBINED TO PUT A SEVERE STRAIN ON JUGOMETAL'S

PROFITABILITY.
SILBERMAN

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NNN

Message Attributes

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